

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Order of Service

September 20, 2026

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Divine Service 4

With Communion (LSB – page 203)

Hymn 700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Hymn 700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

2 Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
 Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit;
 Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
 Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
 Set our hearts at liberty.

Hymn 700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Hymn 700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

4 Finish then Thy new creation,
 Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
 Perfectly restored in Thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
 Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
 Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Confession and Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is the name of the Lord.

C Who made Heaven and Earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord,
who could stand?

**C But, with You, there is forgiveness;
therefore You are feared.**

Confession and Absolution

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ and saying: God be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession and Absolution

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Psalmody (based on Psalm 27: 1-9)

P Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

C The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

P When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

Psalmody (based on Psalm 27: 1-9)

C Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

P One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His Temple.

C For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high upon a rock.

Psalmody (based on Psalm 27: 1-9)

P And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

C **Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! You have said, “Seek My face.” My heart says to You, “Your face, Lord, do I seek.”**

P Hide not Your face from me. Turn not Your servant away in anger, O You who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

C **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Kyrie (sung)

Lord, have mercy;

Christ, have mercy;

Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

1 To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name we sing
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

Gloria in Excelsis

2 To You, O sole begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high.

Gloria in Excelsis

3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
“Amen!” our glad reply.

Collect

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray: O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that, what we ask in faith, we may obtain; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C (sung) **Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson – Ezekiel 55: 6-9

Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the Earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual

P Fear the Lord you, His saints, for those who fear Him lack nothing.

C Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Epistle Lesson – Philippians 1: 21-30

To me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet, which I shall choose, I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that, in me, you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again. Only, let your manner of life be worthy of the Gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or

Epistle Lesson – Philippians 1: 21-30

am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the Gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that, for the sake of Christ, you should not only believe in Him, but also suffer for His sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

- C** (sung) **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**
These things were written that you may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia
- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew,
the 20th chapter
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Holy Gospel – Matthew 20: 1-16

Jesus said, “For the Kingdom of Heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And, going out about the third hour, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And, about the eleventh hour, he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ They said to

Holy Gospel – Matthew 20: 1-16

him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now, when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And, on receiving it, they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have

Holy Gospel – Matthew 20: 1-16

borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity? So the last will be first, and the first last.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn 701 Draw Us to Thee

- 1 Draw us to Thee,
For then shall we
Walk in Thy steps forever
And hasten on
Where Thou art gone
To be with Thee, dear Savior.

Hymn 701 Draw Us to Thee

2 Draw us to Thee,
Lord, lovingly;
Let us depart with gladness
That we may be
Forever free
From sorrow, grief, and sadness.

Hymn 701 Draw Us to Thee

3 Draw us to Thee;
O grant that we
May walk the road to heaven!
Direct our way
Lest we should stray
And from Thy paths be driven.

Hymn 701 Draw Us to Thee

4 Draw us to Thee
That also we
Thy heav'nly bliss inherit
And ever dwell
Where sin and hell
No more can vex our spirit.

Hymn 701 Draw Us to Thee

5 Draw us to Thee
Unceasingly,
Into Thy kingdom take us;
Let us fore'er
Thy glory share,
Thy saints and joint heirs make us.

Sermon

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into

Nicene Creed

heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Offertory and Offering

**C Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence,
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
and uphold me with thy free spirit.
Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament - Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should, at all times and in all places, give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all Creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of Heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (sung)

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth
 adored:**

**Heav'n and earth with full acclaim
 shout the glory of your name.**

**Sing hosanna in the highest,
 sing hosanna to the Lord;**

**Truly blest is He who comes in the
 name of the Lord!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all Creation, for You have had mercy on us and given us Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your righteous judgement, You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the Tree of Life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His Cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Your Holy Spirit, that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His Cross, and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His Body and Blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

**C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive
those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you: this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

P The Peace of the Lord be with You always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

- C 1. O Jesus Christ, True Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, True Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**
- 2. O Jesus Christ, True Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Hymn 637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

- 1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

Hymn 637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

- 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
 To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,
 Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Hymn 637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

- 3 Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
 And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow
 As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Hymn 537 Beautiful Savior

- 1 Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Hymn 537 Beautiful Savior

2 Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer;
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Hymn 537 Beautiful Savior

3 Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

Hymn 537 Beautiful Savior

4 Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine!

Nunc Dimittis

- 1. O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace;
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.**

Nunc Dimittis

**2. All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord

C **Thanks be to God!**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be
gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give
you peace.

C **Amen.**

Hymn 707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
To keep His statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace
To know and do His will!

Hymn 707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

2 Order my footsteps by Thy Word
 And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
 But keep my conscience clear.

Hymn 707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
A stricter watch to keep;
And should I e'er forget Thy way,
Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.

Hymn 707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

4 Make me to walk in Thy commands--
 'Tis a delightful road--
 Nor let my head or heart or hands
 Offend against my God.